

COUNTY PROFILE

Dakota Co.

Dakota Co. is a part of Economic Development Region 11, which is located in the Twin Cities Planning Region.



POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

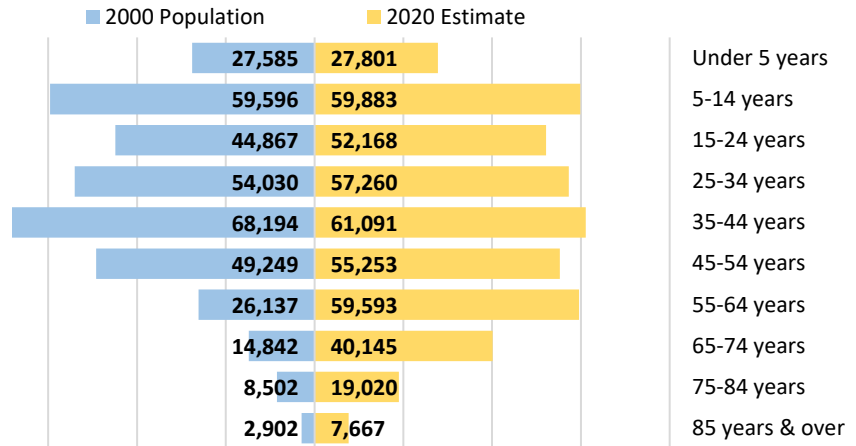
Dakota Co.'s population increased this decade, ranking as the 8th fastest growing of the 87 counties in the state from 2010 to 2020. It is now the 3rd largest in the state. Dakota Co.'s population has an older median age than the state and a smaller percentage of people aged 65 years and older. The population is aging, especially as the Baby Boom generation moves through the population pyramid (see Figure 1).

Current population:	439,882 people	Median Age:	38.6 years
Population change, 2010-2020	41,330 people 10.4% increase	state:	38.3 years

	Number	Percent
Under 5 years	27,801	6.3%
5-14 years	59,883	13.6%
15-24 years	52,168	11.9%
25-34 years	57,260	13.0%
35-44 years	61,091	13.9%
45-54 years	55,253	12.6%
55-64 years	59,593	13.5%
65-74 years	40,145	9.1%
75-84 years	19,020	4.3%
85 years & over	7,667	1.7%
Total Population	439,882	100.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates

Figure 1. Population Pyramid, 2000-2020



Dakota Co. enjoyed a natural increase - more births than deaths from 2010 to 2019, but also experienced net in-migration - meaning more people moved in than moved out. Despite suffering domestic out-migration, Dakota Co. welcomed net international in-migration - gaining new Minnesotans from foreign countries (see Table 2).

	Total Population Change	April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2019					
		Natural Increase	Vital Events		Net Migration		
			Births	Deaths	Total	International	Domestic
Dakota Co.	30,431	25,833	48,180	22,347	4,803	5,642	-839
State of Minnesota	335,705	250,488	637,356	386,868	88,161	114,414	-26,253

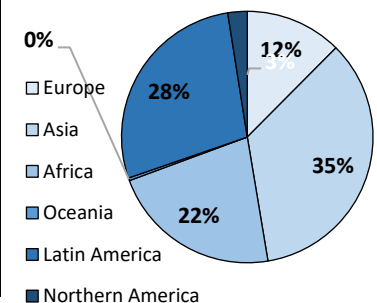
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

Compared to the state, Dakota Co. has a larger percentage of foreign-born residents. From 2010 to 2019, Dakota Co. saw an increase in the number of foreign-born residents, which was faster than the statewide increase.

	Dakota Co.		Change 2010-2019		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent	Change
Foreign-born Population	41,071	9.7%	10,113	32.7%	8.5%	28.9%
Europe	5,114	12.5%	965	23.3%	9.9%	4.5%
Asia	14,340	34.9%	2,559	21.7%	37.5%	30.3%
Africa	9,035	22.0%	3,605	66.4%	25.5%	72.0%
Oceania	145	0.4%	78	116.4%	0.5%	37.2%
Americas:	12,437	30.3%	2,906	30.5%	26.6%	10.0%
Latin America	11,412	27.8%	3,288	40.5%	24.1%	12.2%
Northern America	1,025	2.5%	-382	-27.1%	2.5%	-7.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey

Figure 2. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born Population, 2019



COUNTY PROFILE

Dakota Co.

Dakota Co.'s population was becoming more racially diverse over time. Since 2000, the county's white population increased and the number of people of other races increased (see Table 4).

Figure 3. Population by Race, 2019

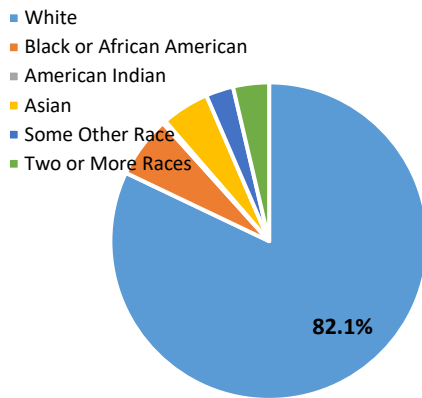


Table 4. Race and Hispanic Origin, 2019	Dakota Co.			Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Change from 2000-2019	Percent	Change from 2000-2019
Total	421,453	100.0%	18.4%	100.0%	13.1%
White	345,909	82.1%	6.4%	82.8%	4.7%
Black or African American	26,362	6.3%	225.8%	6.4%	107.6%
American Indian or Alaska Native	1,337	0.3%	-0.7%	1.0%	5.5%
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	20,560	4.9%	96.7%	4.9%	87.8%
Some Other Race	11,845	2.8%	157.2%	1.9%	58.1%
Two or More Races	15,440	3.7%	147.3%	3.0%	99.9%
Hispanic or Latino origin	30,100	7.1%	187.8%	5.4%	108.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey

POPULATION PROJECTIONS

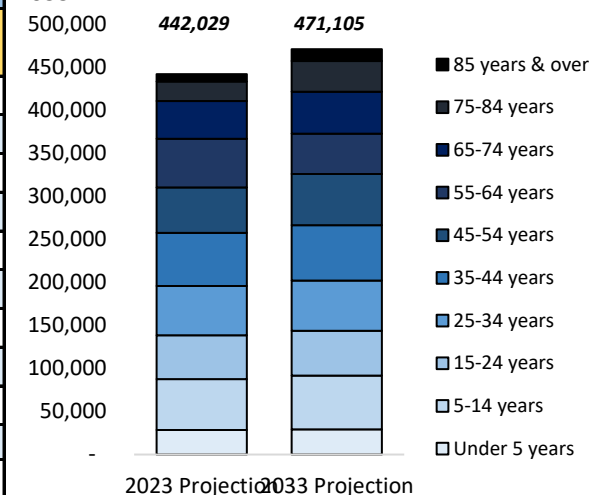
According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, Dakota Co.'s population is expected to grow from 2023 to 2033, with a rate of change that is faster than the projected statewide growth rate (5.6%). In addition to the overall growth, the number of people aged 65 years and older is expected to increase over the next decade (see Figure 4 and Table 5).

Table 5. Population Projections by Age Group, 2023-2033

Dakota Co.	2023 Projection	2033 Projection	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Under 5 years	28,623	29,398	775	2.7%
5-14 years	58,974	62,510	3,536	6.0%
15-24 years	51,131	52,027	896	1.8%
25-34 years	57,120	58,436	1,316	2.3%
35-44 years	61,678	64,040	2,362	3.8%
45-54 years	52,920	59,693	6,773	12.8%
55-64 years	56,520	46,975	-9,545	-16.9%
65-74 years	44,025	48,607	4,582	10.4%
75-84 years	22,627	35,766	13,139	58.1%
85 years & over	8,411	13,653	5,242	62.3%
Total Population	442,029	471,105	29,076	6.6%

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

Figure 4. Projections by Age Group, 2023-2033



EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Dakota Co. has a higher percentage of adults (18 years & over) with at least a high school diploma than the state (92.4%), and a higher percentage of people with at least some college experience. Dakota Co. also has a higher percentage of people with an Associate's degree and a higher percentage of people with a Bachelor's degree or higher.

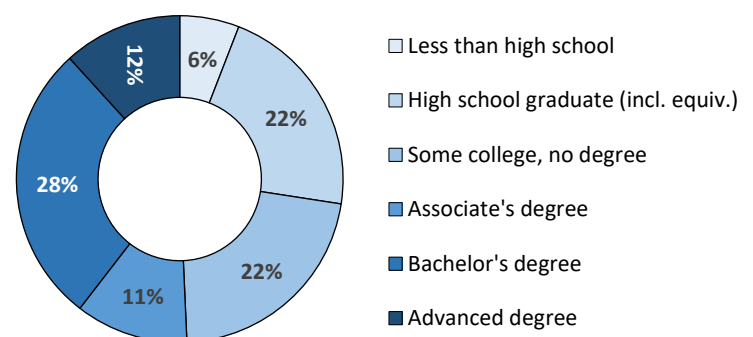
Percentage of the adult population (18 years & over) with at least a high school diploma:

94.1%

College-educated: **72.6%**
state: 67.1%

Associate's Degree: **11.2%**
Bachelor's Degree: **27.8%**
Advanced Degree: **11.8%**

Figure 5. Educational Attainment, 2019



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

At 5.9%, Dakota Co. had a lower unemployment rate than the state in 2020. Due to the pandemic recession Dakota Co.'s unemployment rate increased compared to 2.9% in 2019, but was lower than the 7% rate posted in 2010. The number of unemployed workers actively seeking work in Dakota Co. increased over the past year, and is down compared to 2010.

240,319 available workers

Labor Force change,
2005-2020

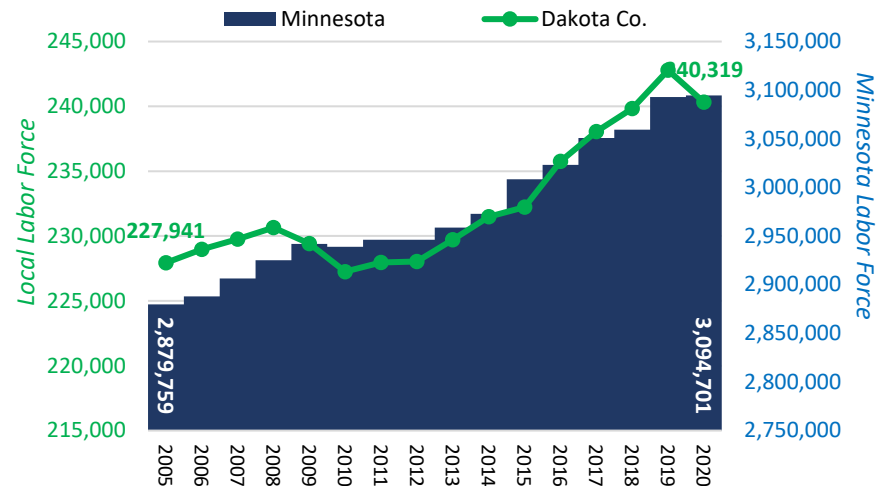
12,378 workers
5.4% increase

5.9% unemployment rate

6.2% state

14,179 unemployed workers

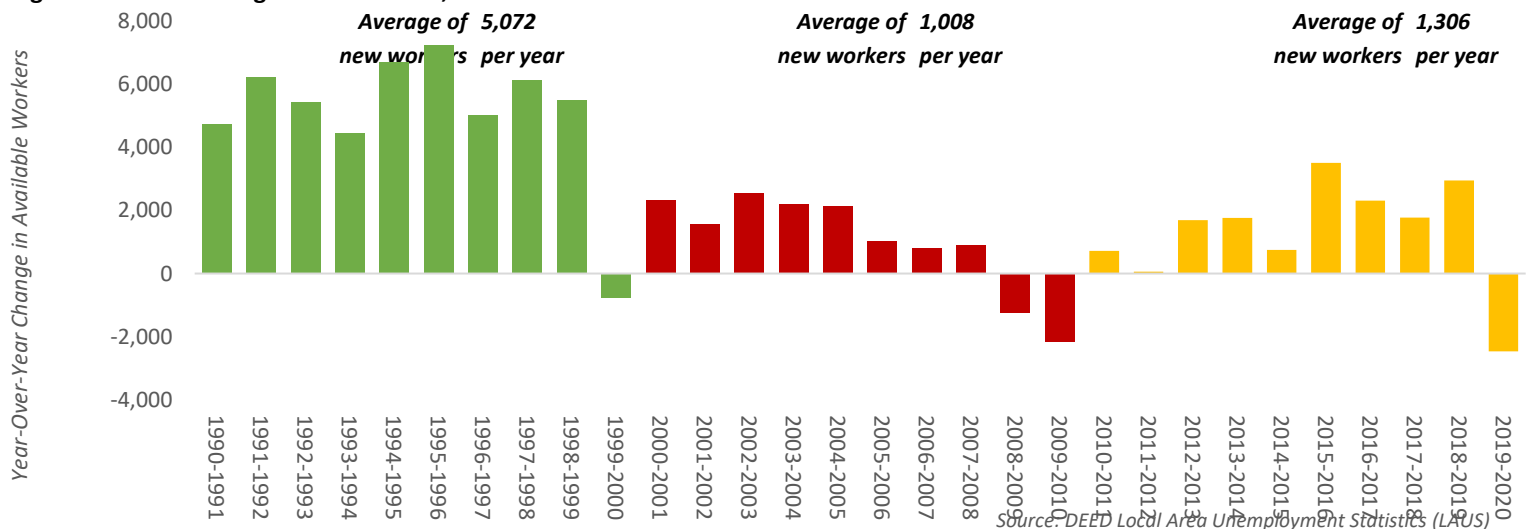
Figure 6. Annual Labor Force Estimates



Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics

Labor force growth has slowed in recent years. After experiencing a net gain of 5072.2 workers each year from 1990 to 2000, Dakota Co. averaged an annual gain of 1007.6 new workers from 2000 to 2010, and most recently a gain of 1306 new workers since 2010 (see Figure 7). Moving forward, Dakota Co. is expected to add workers from 2023 to 2033 (see Table 6).

Figure 7. Annual Change in Labor Force, 1990-2020



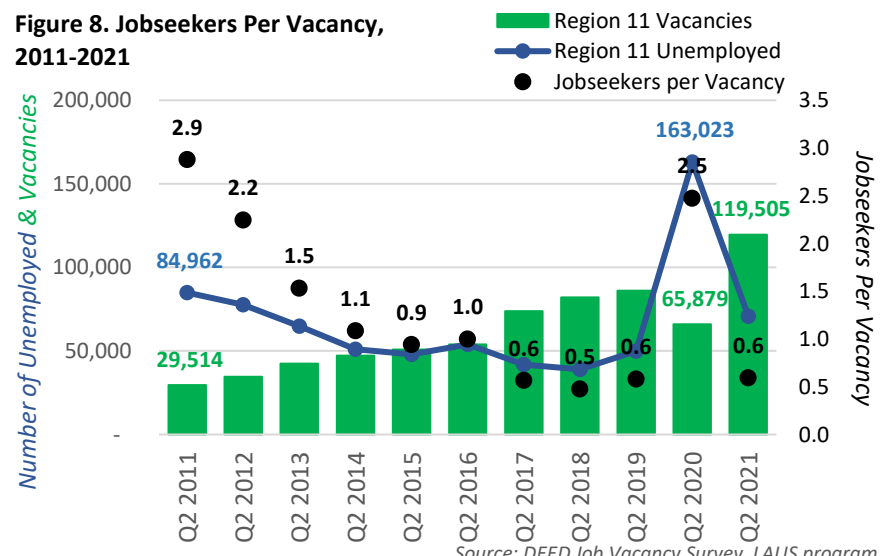
Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

Table 6. Labor Force Projections, 2023-2033	Labor Force Projection	
	2023	2033
16 to 24 years	33,236	33,756
25 to 54 years	156,034	165,501
55 to 64 years	43,012	35,748
65 years & over	14,627	17,164
Total Labor Force	246,908	252,169

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

The labor market had grown extremely tight in recent years, with less than 1 jobseeker per vacancy until the pandemic recession intervened in early 2020 and the number of unemployed workers spiked. However, by the second quarter of 2021, job vacancies in Twin Cities reached new highs, quickly bringing back challenges in finding new workers (see Figure 8).

Figure 8. Jobseekers Per Vacancy, 2011-2021



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, LAUS program

LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

Dakota Co. had a higher labor force participation rate than the state. The labor force in Dakota Co. is more racially diverse than the state (where 84.8% of workers are white alone), but is becoming more diverse over time.

Table 7. Employment Characteristics, 2019

	Dakota Co.			Minnesota		Dakota Co.	
	In Labor Force (available workers)	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Male	Female
Total Labor Force	242,454	73.5%	3.6%	69.7%	3.6%	125,562	116,893
16 to 19 years	11,863	56.1%	13.3%	53.2%	11.0%	6,031	5,824
20 to 24 years	21,378	88.0%	6.9%	84.6%	6.0%	10,848	10,533
25 to 44 years	101,343	91.1%	3.1%	88.8%	3.2%	53,074	48,281
45 to 54 years	52,993	90.3%	2.4%	87.6%	2.7%	27,048	25,969
55 to 64 years	43,452	76.1%	2.5%	73.0%	2.8%	22,350	21,105
65 to 74 years	9,875	28.5%	1.7%	27.9%	2.2%	5,344	4,532
75 years & over	1,526	6.7%	2.3%	6.6%	2.4%	867	649

Employment Characteristics by Race & Hispanic Origin

White alone	201,553	72.3%	2.9%	69.3%	3.0%
Black or African American	15,174	82.7%	8.3%	71.3%	8.8%
American Indian & Alaska Native	733	69.3%	6.5%	58.9%	12.6%
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	11,981	74.9%	4.1%	71.2%	4.3%
Some Other Race	7,128	83.4%	8.5%	77.7%	6.1%
Two or More Races	5,969	83.4%	7.4%	73.6%	7.4%
Hispanic or Latino	15,828	79.1%	9.4%	76.5%	6.1%

Employment Characteristics by Disability

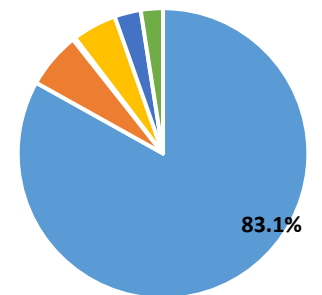
With Any Disability	9,645	55.8%	9.2%	53.0%	8.6%
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Employment Characteristics by Educational Attainment

Population, 25 to 64 years	197,722	87.1%	2.8%	84.5%	3.0%
Less than H.S. Diploma	7,936	76.5%	3.8%	66.3%	4.2%
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	33,008	81.6%	2.0%	78.5%	2.6%
Some College or Assoc. Degree	65,336	87.2%	2.8%	85.3%	3.0%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	91,534	90.4%	2.0%	90.0%	1.7%

Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

Figure 9. Labor Force by Race, 2019

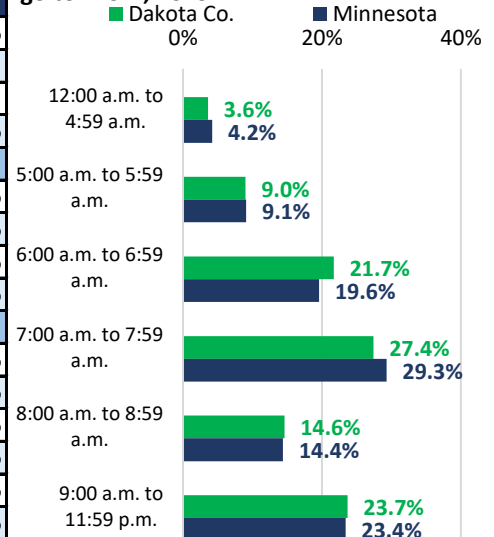


- White alone
- Black or African American
- American Indian & Alaska Native
- Asian or Other Pac. Islanders
- Some Other Race
- Two or More Races

A smaller percentage of workers in Dakota Co. worked in the same county in which they live compared to the state. Dakota Co. also had a longer average commute time than the state.

Table 8. Commuting Characteristics, 2019	Dakota Co.		Minnesota	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Worked in state of residence	227,395	98.8%	2,837,697	97.6%
Worked in county of residence	111,396	48.4%	1,846,247	63.5%
Worked out of county of residence	116,229	50.5%	991,449	34.1%
Worked outside state of residence	2,762	1.2%	69,779	2.4%
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK				
Car, truck, or van	204,610	88.9%	2,506,244	86.2%
Public transportation (excl. taxicab)	7,365	3.2%	101,762	3.5%
Other method (walk, bike, taxi, etc.)	5,524	2.4%	125,021	4.3%
Worked at home	12,659	5.5%	171,541	5.9%
TRAVEL TIME TO WORK				
Less than 10 minutes	26,238	11.4%	456,474	15.7%
10 to 19 minutes	62,603	27.2%	872,243	30.0%
20 to 29 minutes	56,619	24.6%	645,460	22.2%
30 to 44 minutes	56,619	24.6%	575,680	19.8%
45 to 59 minutes	17,952	7.8%	194,801	6.7%
60 or more minutes	10,357	4.5%	162,819	5.6%
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	24.9 minutes		23.7 minutes	

Figure 10. Time Leaving Home to go to Work, 2019



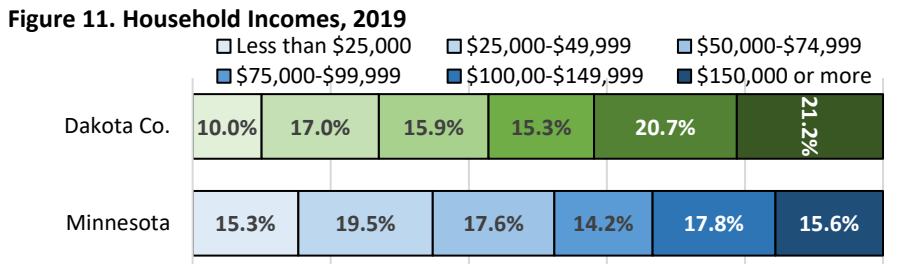
Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

INCOMES, COST OF LIVING, & HOUSING

Dakota Co. had a higher median household income than the state, and a lower percentage of households with incomes below \$50,000. Overall, Dakota Co. had the 5th highest median household income of the 87 counties in the state.

Median Household Income	\$86,036
state	\$71,306
Median Family Income	\$104,537
state	\$89,842
Per Capita Income	\$41,552
state	\$37,625

Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey



Dakota Co. also had a higher cost of living than the state, with a required hourly wage of \$16.78 for a single person living alone to meet a basic needs cost of living, and an hourly wage requirement of \$21.15 for a typical family with 2 adults and 1 child (see Table 9).

Table 9. Basic Needs Cost of Living Estimates, 2020

Single Adult, 0 children	Single Yearly Cost of Living	Hourly Wage Required	Monthly Costs						
			Child Care	Food	Health Care	Housing	Transportation	Other	Taxes
Dakota Co.	\$34,903	\$16.78	\$0	\$352	\$146	\$964	\$686	\$360	\$401
State of Minnesota	\$32,964	\$15.85	\$0	\$355	\$153	\$832	\$704	\$325	\$378
Typical Family: 2 Adults (1 working full-time, 1 part-time), 1 child	Family Yearly Cost of Living	Hourly Wage Required	Monthly Costs						
			Child Care	Food	Health Care	Housing	Transportation	Other	Taxes
Dakota Co.	\$65,998	\$21.15	\$799	\$803	\$569	\$1,230	\$796	\$557	\$746
State of Minnesota	\$58,800	\$18.85	\$546	\$810	\$549	\$1,069	\$819	\$515	\$592

Source: DEED Cost of Living tool

Dakota Co. had a higher median house value than the state, having the 5th highest value of the 87 counties in 2019. Dakota Co.'s housing stock was newer than the state's, with a higher percentage of units built since 2000 (see Figure 12).

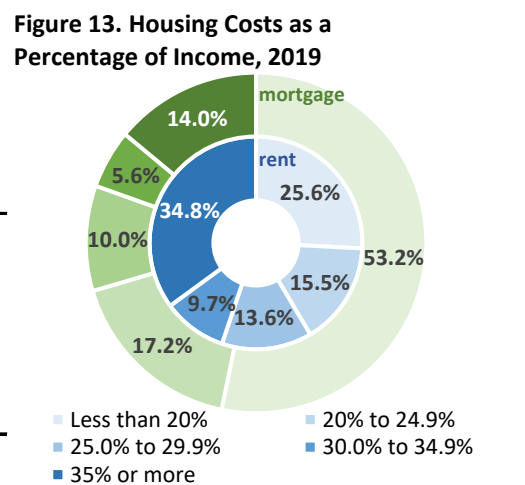
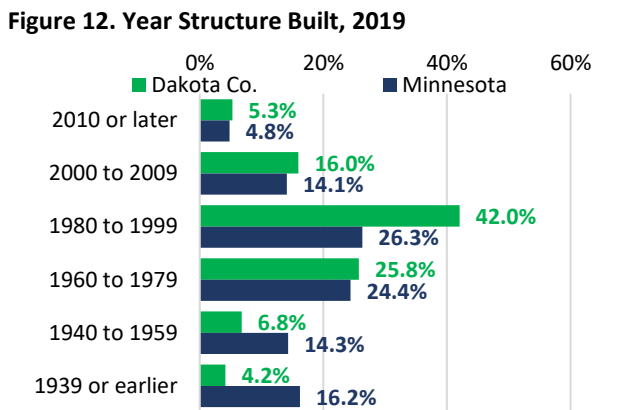
Table 10. Estimated Value of Owner-occupied Housing Units, 2019

	Dakota Co.		Minnesota
	Total	Percent	Percent
Total	119,521	100.0%	100.0%
Less than \$50,000	3,849	3.2%	4.6%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	2,845	2.4%	7.8%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	7,596	6.4%	12.3%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	18,300	15.3%	17.9%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	41,072	34.4%	28.1%
\$300,000 to \$499,999	37,214	31.1%	21.5%
\$500,000 or more	8,645	7.2%	7.9%
Median (dollars)	\$266,000		\$223,900

Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

Median monthly owner costs, owner-occupied units with a mortgage	\$1,733
state	\$1,580
Percentage of households with a mortgage spending 30% or more of their income on housing costs	19.6%
state	21.8%
Median monthly rent costs	\$1,174
state	\$977
Percentage of renters spending 30% or more of their household income on rent	44.5%
state	45.1%

Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates



OCCUPATIONS

At \$24.93 in 2021, wages were higher in Region 11 than the state. Overall, Region 11 had the highest median hourly wage level of the 13 economic development regions in the state. Wages were highest for management occupations (\$58.99) and lowest for food preparation and serving related jobs (\$13.94) (see Table 11).

Table 11. Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, 2021

Occupational Group	Region 11				State of Minnesota		
	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Jobs	Share of Total Jobs	Regional Location Quotient	Median Hourly Wage	State-wide Jobs	Share of Total Jobs
Total, All Occupations	\$24.93	1,697,060	100.0%	1.0	\$23.00	2,708,760	100.0%
Management	\$58.99	119,150	7.0%	1.2	\$54.22	164,530	6.1%
Business & Financial Operations	\$36.59	141,770	8.4%	1.3	\$35.24	179,670	6.6%
Computer & Mathematical	\$46.25	83,760	4.9%	1.4	\$44.89	98,240	3.6%
Architecture & Engineering	\$40.52	39,540	2.3%	1.1	\$38.90	54,880	2.0%
Life, Physical & Social Science	\$38.12	18,230	1.1%	1.1	\$35.48	26,120	1.0%
Community & Social Service	\$24.73	32,100	1.9%	0.9	\$24.21	55,630	2.1%
Legal	\$45.37	15,590	0.9%	1.3	\$41.02	19,760	0.7%
Education, Training & Library	\$25.64	88,880	5.2%	0.9	\$24.64	159,060	5.9%
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	\$27.98	26,520	1.6%	1.2	\$25.72	36,260	1.3%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	\$38.80	104,110	6.1%	0.9	\$36.90	188,210	6.9%
Healthcare Support	\$15.68	92,010	5.4%	0.9	\$15.52	157,140	5.8%
Protective Service	\$23.80	26,050	1.5%	1.0	\$24.18	42,520	1.6%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	\$13.94	115,480	6.8%	0.9	\$13.34	195,120	7.2%
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	\$16.67	43,400	2.6%	0.9	\$16.14	74,550	2.8%
Personal Care & Service	\$14.91	32,510	1.9%	1.0	\$14.57	51,660	1.9%
Sales & Related	\$18.76	158,630	9.3%	1.0	\$16.83	250,430	9.2%
Office & Administrative Support	\$21.96	219,750	12.9%	1.0	\$20.93	338,050	12.5%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	\$16.78	1,110	0.1%	0.4	\$18.14	4,230	0.2%
Construction & Extraction	\$33.47	55,850	3.3%	0.9	\$29.84	102,390	3.8%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$26.77	53,890	3.2%	0.9	\$25.45	98,840	3.6%
Production	\$20.54	104,880	6.2%	0.8	\$19.82	202,240	7.5%
Transportation & Material Moving	\$19.09	123,850	7.3%	0.9	\$18.83	209,210	7.7%

Source: DEED Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, Qtr. 1 2021

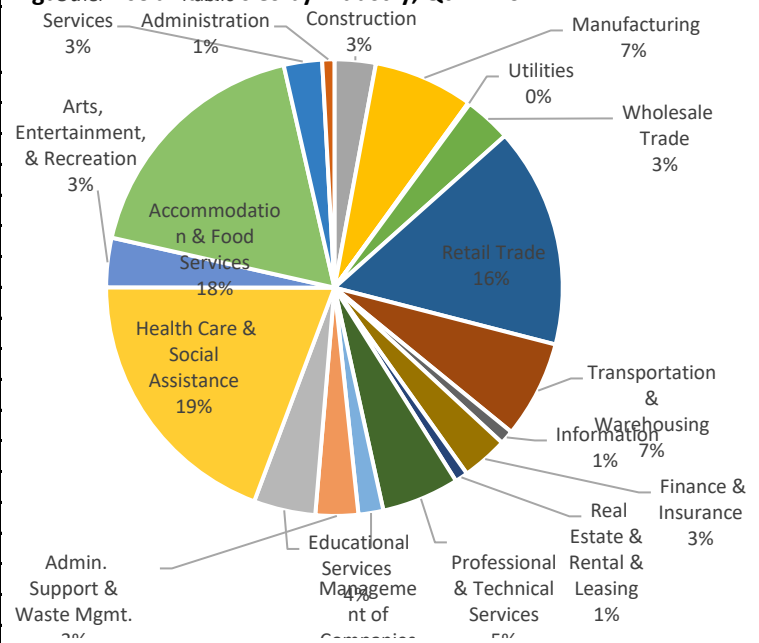
JOB VACANCY SURVEY

Dakota Co. is a part of the Twin Cities planning region. There were 119505 job vacancies posted by employers in the 2nd Quarter of 2021, indicating extensive opportunity in the region, with openings across several occupations and industries (see Figure 14).

Table 12. Twin Cities Job Vacancy Survey Results, Qtr. 2 2021

Occupational Group	Number of Vacancies	Wage Offer
Total, All Occupations	119,505	\$17.86
Management	5,905	\$39.46
Business & Financial Operations	5,493	\$32.44
Computer & Mathematical	5,112	\$34.93
Architecture & Engineering	2,258	\$33.19
Life, Physical & Social Sciences	1,264	\$27.05
Community & Social Service	3,087	\$20.32
Education, Training & Library	4,706	\$24.68
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	7,619	\$30.42
Healthcare Support	9,106	\$14.79
Protective Service	1,388	\$14.27
Food Preparation & Serving Related	19,112	\$13.58
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	4,771	\$17.34
Personal Care & Service	3,865	\$13.98
Sales & Related	16,235	\$14.83
Office & Administrative Support	8,454	\$15.15
Construction & Extraction	2,683	\$17.78
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	4,057	\$19.96
Production	4,269	\$18.91
Transportation & Material Moving	5,137	\$17.04

Figure 14. Job Vacancies by Industry, Qtr. 2 2021



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, Qtr. 2 2021

OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND

Table 13. Twin Cities Occupations in Demand, 2020

Less than High School	High School or Equivalent	Some College or Assoc. Deg.	Bachelor's Degree or Higher
Home Health and Personal Care Aides \$28,922	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses \$51,540	Registered Nurses \$85,602	Software Developers and Software Quality Assurance Analysts and \$105,470
Retail Salespersons \$26,660	Nursing Assistants \$38,066	Computer Network Support Specialists \$65,304	Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists \$74,094
Stockers and Order Fillers \$31,456	Medical Assistants \$43,012	Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technologists \$82,199	Construction Managers \$96,645
Customer Service Representatives \$41,374	Health Information Technologists, Medical Registrars, Surgical Assistants, and \$81,921	Web Developers and Digital Interface Designers \$82,193	Information Security Analysts \$103,978
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and \$73,225	Computer User Support Specialists \$57,312	Surgical Technologists \$62,542	Substitute Teachers, Short-Term \$38,513
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers \$45,504	Medical Dosimetrists, Medical Records Specialists, and Health Technologists and \$53,709	Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians \$54,660	Substance abuse, behavioral disorder, and mental health \$50,762
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and \$31,861	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics \$46,772	Industrial Engineering Technologists and Technicians \$54,934	Computer Network Architects \$116,165
Social and Human Service Assistants \$36,081	Electricians \$76,713	Radiologic Technologists and Technicians \$69,362	Nurse Practitioners \$120,092
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand \$36,000	Dental Assistants \$55,364	Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians \$66,975	Computer Systems Analysts \$95,240
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers \$52,337	Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers \$62,385	Environmental Science and Protection Technicians, Including \$53,923	Surgeons, Except Ophthalmologists NA

Source: DEED Occupations in Demand

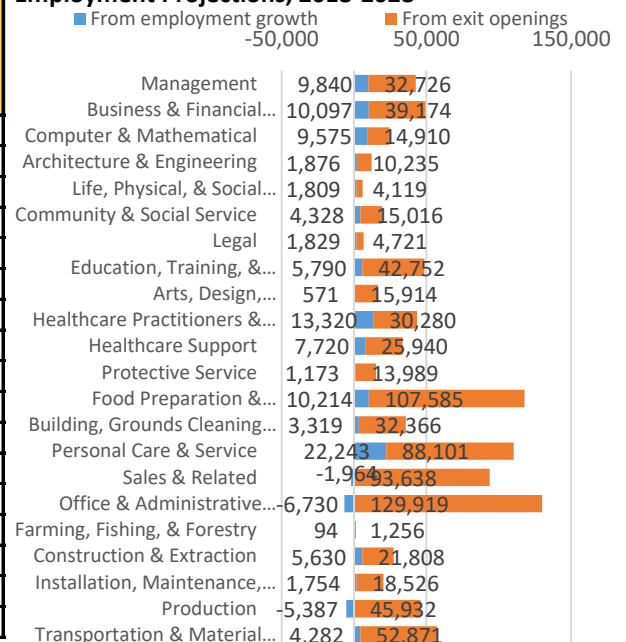
Dakota Co. is a part of the Twin Cities planning region, which is projected to see a 6.8% increase in employment levels over the next decade. In addition to new jobs created, there will be a much larger number of exit openings (see Figure 15).

Table 14. Regional Industry Employment Projections, 2018-2028

Twin Cities Planning Region	Estimated Employment 2018	Projected Employment 2028	Percent Change 2018-2028
Total, All Industries	1,927,626	2,029,009	5.3%
Natural Resources & Mining	3,787	3,954	4.4%
Utilities	5,623	5,700	1.4%
Construction	70,186	77,511	10.4%
Manufacturing	171,658	163,236	-4.9%
Wholesale Trade	89,409	89,839	0.5%
Retail Trade	169,053	164,394	-2.8%
Transportation & Warehousing	70,333	72,878	3.6%
Information	36,310	33,413	-8.0%
Finance & Insurance, Real Estate	145,886	152,568	4.6%
Professional Services & Mgmt. of Companies	211,984	235,511	11.1%
Administrative & Waste Services	103,822	108,207	4.2%
Educational Services	144,290	149,823	3.8%
Health Care & Social Assistance	269,456	320,763	19.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	175,239	186,261	6.3%
Other Services, Ex. Public Admin	77,834	77,852	0.0%
Public Administration	102,392	104,513	2.1%

Source: DEED 2018-2028 Employment Outlook

Figure 15. Regional Occupational Employment Projections, 2018-2028



Due to the pandemic recession, after losing jobs over the past year, Dakota Co. had the 3rd largest economy of the 87 counties in the state. Dakota Co. was the 64th fastest growing in the past year and the 40th fastest growing since 2015. From 2015 to 2020, employers in Dakota Co. cut jobs, but lagged the state.

Job change, 2015-2020	-6,177 jobs -3.4% decline
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 Dakota Co.

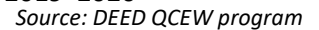


Figure 2. Change in Jobs, 2019-2020



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